

view of this, they are entitled to the benefit of the Japanese priority date, thus antedating the Goto et al. reference. For this reason alone, the rejection based on this reference should be withdrawn.

The rejection of claims 9-17 under 35 U.S.C. §102(f) based on the same Goto et al. reference is also traversed, for the same reasons as indicated above. That is, since Applicants are entitled to the benefit of their Japanese priority date, it is apparent that they invented the subject matter claimed in the present U.S. application before the publication date of the reference.

Therefore, in view of the foregoing remarks, it is submitted that each of the grounds of rejection set forth by the Examiner has been overcome, and that the application is in condition for allowance. Such allowance is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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